Amendment to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Ball~~ A ball bearing [[(1)]] having ~~an inner~~ a stationary race and ~~an outer~~ a rotating race, wherein the bearing has surfaces [[(14, 15)]] which are concentric to the rotational axis [[(6)]] and of which one is a part of the rotating bearing race and the other is a part of the fixed bearing race where during normal operation the surfaces [[(14, 15)]] are situated opposite one another with a relatively narrow gap [[(24)]] therebetween and such that in the event of failure the concentric surfaces [[(14, 15)]] function as emergency bearing surfaces.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Bearing~~ The bearing in accordance with claim 1, wherein the concentric surfaces [[(14, 15)]] also extend axially.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Bearing~~ The bearing in accordance with claim 1, wherein the concentric surfaces [[(14, 15)]] have, when viewing the cross section, the shape of a step.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Bearing~~ The bearing in accordance with claim 1, wherein the concentric surfaces [[(14, 15))]] extend obliquely with respect to the rotational axis [[(6)]] of the bearing.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Bearing~~ The bearing in accordance with ~~one of the claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of the concentric surface is mounted on a radial projection[[s]] [[(14, 15)]] and simultaneously ~~have the~~ functions ~~of~~ as a bearing cover.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Bearing~~ The bearing in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 1, wherein the gap between the concentric emergency bearing surfaces is less than 0.1 mm~~, preferably less than 0.05 mm~~.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Bearing~~ The bearing in accordance with ~~one of the above claims~~ claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ material for the ~~surfaces of the~~ concentric emergency bearing surfaces is so selected that the drive of the rotating system cannot overcome the friction produced during an emergency rundown so that it switches to failure.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Bearing~~ The bearing in accordance with ~~one of the claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein the material used for the emergency bearing surfaces [[(14, 15)]] is steel~~, preferably hardened rolling bearing steel~~.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Bearing~~ The bearing in accordance with ~~one of the claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of the two emergency bearing surfaces [[(14, 15)]] is coated.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Drag~~ A drag vacuum pump with a stator [[(6)]] and a rotor [[(27)]] which is supported by a rolling bearing [[(35, 36),]] ~~wherein at least one of the rolling bearings exhibits the characteristics of one or several of the aforementioned claims~~ in accordance with claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Drag~~ The drag vacuum pump in accordance with claim 10, ~~wherein it is equipped with~~ further including:

a purge gas facility.

12. (New) The bearing in accordance with claim 6, wherein the gap is less than 0.05 mm.

13. (New) The bearing in accordance with claim 8, wherein the concentric emergency bearing surfaces are hardened roller bearing steel.

14. (New) A ball or roller bearing comprising:

an inner annular race;

an outer annular race;

balls or rollers mounted in a rolling relationship between the inner and outer annular races;

a first annular projection extending radially from a first edge of one of the races toward the other;

emergency bearing surfaces defined on a radially outer face of the projection and the other bearing race, the emergency bearing surfaces facing each other across a gap.

15. (New) The bearing in accordance with claim 14 further including:

a second annular projection extending radially from a first edge of the other race toward the first annular projection, the emergency bearing surfaces being defined on the first and second projections.

16. (New) The bearing in accordance with claim 14 further including:

a bearing cover disposed between second edges of the inner and outer races.